

ACE Assessment Digest

OFFICE OF ASSESSMENT FOR CURRICULAR EFFECTIVENESS



ACE Assessment Digest | November 2025

In this issue:

- [Program Assessment Spotlight: Building Clarity, Connection, and Continuity Through Program Assessment \(Anthropology\)](#)
- [Support for 2025 Undergraduate Program Assessment Reporting](#)
- [2024 Examples of Direct Measures Collected Near the End of the Curriculum at WSU](#)
- [Updated Quick Guide to Using Assessment to Inform Decision-making](#)
- [Resources in our National Survey of Student Engagement \(NSSE\) Toolkit](#)
- [FYI – Calendar of Fall 2025 Dates Related to Program Assessment](#)
- [ACE Support for Program Assessment Efforts](#)

Program Assessment Spotlight: Building Clarity, Connection, & Continuity Through Program Assessment (Anthropology)

Effective program-level assessment is grounded in clear learning outcomes, aligned measures, and intentional use of results to support student learning. Recent work in the Department of Anthropology offers a strong example of how faculty-led assessment can drive meaningful improvements in curriculum design, instructional practice, and student engagement. Five practices in particular stand out: revising student learning outcomes (SLOs) for clarity, aligning direct and indirect measures with those outcomes, adopting a simple tech solution to support multi-campus assessment, connecting curriculum to career paths, and integrating assessment and curriculum leadership. >> [Read More ...](#)

Support for 2025 Undergraduate Program Assessment Reporting

WSU undergraduate degree programs are responsible for reporting annually on program-level assessment, submitting a report during the open reporting window — anytime from mid-December 2025 through February 2026. On October 31st, program assessment coordinators and chairs/directors received emails from ace.office@wsu.edu with information and resources for [2025 Undergraduate Program Assessment Reporting](#). One goal of WSU's annual undergraduate program assessment reporting is to document regular assessment activities and uses as required by our institutional accreditor, the [Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities \(NWCCU\)](#). Reports submitted by undergraduate programs in recent years, as well as the reports due in February about 2025 activities, will provide key evidence to demonstrate an effective, regular, and comprehensive system of assessment of student achievement.

If you'd like to discuss preparing your program's report or to schedule a working session, please [contact us](#).

2024 Examples of Direct Measures Collected Near the End of the Curriculum at WSU

WSU expects undergraduate degree programs to regularly collect direct measures near the end of the curriculum, providing programs with information about student achievement of program-level student learning outcomes as students are completing the curriculum. WSU encourages programs to choose measures that provide useful information to their faculty and fit with disciplinary expectations.

Each year, we compile [selected examples of direct measures collected near the end of the curriculum by WSU undergraduate degree programs](#), as reported in the annual program assessment reports. The examples are intended to show a range of direct measures collected near the end of the curriculum and are not intended to be exhaustive or show all measures collected by WSU programs.

Updated Quick Guide to Using Assessment to Inform Decision-making

Program assessment activities and data are intended to inform regular faculty reflection and discussion about effective teaching, learning, and curricula, and ultimately contribute to decision-making to support student learning. Our [Quick Guide to Using Assessment to Inform Decision-making \(PDF\)](#) includes two appendices that list available resources to support WSU faculty and students:

- Appendix A: a list of resources available to support WSU faculty in developing interventions that aim to advance student learning on program learning outcomes
- Appendix B: a list of academic support services available to WSU students that aim to advance student learning

We are available to collaborate with undergraduate degree programs to facilitate faculty discussions related to using assessment to inform decision-making; [contact us](#) for additional information.

Resources in our National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) Toolkit

In early November, disaggregated NSSE reports were distributed to WSU programs in which 10 or more senior majors responded to the 2025 NSSE. As you examine your 2025 NSSE results, we are available to answer questions and to facilitate discussions to help programs interpret and use NSSE results for program learning outcomes assessment. Our [NSSE toolkit](#) includes resources intended to help departments and programs as they interpret and use NSSE as an indirect measure for program-level assessment.

Every two years, WSU participates in the NSSE to help assess senior and first-year student engagement in educational practices associated with high levels of learning and development. After each administration, our office collaborates with WSU's Office of Institutional Research to disaggregate responses from senior majors for undergraduate degree programs and colleges to provide information about the student perspective to help continually improve the learning experience for students.

FYI – Calendar of Fall 2025 Dates Related to Program Assessment

Month	Date	Activity
Aug	Mid Aug	Spring 2025 [CAPS] instructors receive a pdf copy of their [CAPS] Assessment Report for UCORE from UCORE via email. <i>Note: Typically, assessment in a [CAPS] course for majors can contribute toward degree program-level assessment of student learning – see our resource related to [CAPS] Assessment Reporting for UCORE as part of degree program assessment.</i>
	18 th	First day of instruction for the fall term.
Sept	16 th	Deadline for undergraduate students to drop a course without record.
	Late Sept	Fall 2025 [CAPS] instructors receive an email from UCORE with initial information about [CAPS] Assessment Reporting for UCORE for the fall term.
Oct	1 st	Fall submission deadline for major Curricular Change Requests for new and revised courses & new and revised requirements.
	31 st	Program assessment coordinators receive an email from ACE with information about 2025 Undergraduate Program Assessment Reporting , including the report planning sheet. ACE is also available to help assessment coordinators complete the report; contact us for additional information.
Nov	14 th	Deadline for undergraduate students to withdraw from a course.
Dec	Early Dec	Fall 2025 [CAPS] instructors receive their link to the [CAPS] Assessment Reporting for UCORE form in Qualtrics via email (i.e., reporting opens).
	5 th	Last day of instruction for the term.
	Mid Dec	Program assessment coordinators receive an email from ACE with a unique link to their 2025 Undergraduate Program Assessment Reporting form in Qualtrics. Assessment coordinators can submit their report during the open reporting window — anytime from mid-Dec 2025 through Feb 2026.
	16 th	Final grade submission ends.
Jan	9 th	Fall 2025 [CAPS] Assessment Reports for UCORE are due (i.e., reporting closes).

ACE Support for Program Assessment Efforts

We work with colleges and programs to assess student learning towards the improvement of undergraduate degree programs. ACE also provides learning outcomes assessment support for university-wide undergraduate education, serving all colleges, campuses, and UCORE general education. See [What We Do](#) and [Our Services](#) for more information.

ACE's Assessment Specialists are happy to answer any questions and consult with programs on their assessment efforts! For information about who to contact, see our [ACE Staff](#) page.

Copyright © WSU Office of Assessment for Curricular Effectiveness (ACE), All rights reserved.

ACE Assessment Digest is a bite-sized email, sent twice a semester, communicating timely information about undergraduate program assessment at WSU ([ACE Assessment Digest Archive](#)). To send feedback, tips, or to opt out, email ace.office@wsu.edu.